

ARTICLE VII. FIRE ALARM AND DETECTION SYSTEMS

DIVISION 1. GENERALLY

Sec. 9-113. Scope.

This Article shall provide the minimum requirements for the application, design, installation, location, performance, and maintenance of automatic fire detection and alarm systems, smoke detection and alarm systems, the components of these systems, and accessory equipment for fire protection.

Sec. 9-114. Purpose.

The purpose of this Article is to provide a reasonable degree of protection for life and property from fire through design, installation, testing, and maintenance requirements for automatic fire detection and alarm systems, smoke detection and alarm systems, the components of these systems, and accessory equipment based on sound engineering principles, test data, and field experience.

Sec. 9-115. Definitions.

The definitions contained in this section apply throughout this Article and are in addition to any document referred to therein. The definitions are intended to be read in place of any definitions of the same words contained in the publication adopted in Section 9-120.

(No Definitions)

DIVISION 2. ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Secs. 9-116. Impairments.

(a) Impairments. A fire protection system shall be considered to be impaired when the system or portion thereof is taken out of service for any reason.

- (1) Where a required fire alarm system is impaired for more than four (4) hours in a twenty-four (24)-hour period, the building shall be evacuated, or an approved fire watch shall be provided for all parties left unprotected by the shutdown, or other mitigating measures shall be instituted as approved by the City Fire Marshal until the fire alarm system has been returned to service.

(b) Out of Service. A fire protection system shall be considered to be out of service when the system is damaged or impaired to a degree that it is unable to provide the basic level of fire protection it was intended to provide.

- (1) Where a required fire alarm system is out of service for more than four (4) hours in a twenty-four (24) hour period, the authority having jurisdiction shall be notified, and the building shall be evacuated, or an approved fire watch shall be provided for all

parties left unprotected by the shutdown, or other mitigating measures shall be instituted as approved by the City Fire Marshal until the fire alarm system has been returned to service.

Secs. 9-117 – 9-119. Reserved.

DIVISION 3. TECHNICAL STANDARDS

Sec. 9-120. Adopted.

The NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code, 2010 Edition, as issued by the National Fire Protection Association, is hereby adopted by reference, except as amended by Section 9-121 of this Chapter. One (1) copy of such publication, as adopted, shall be maintained by the Inspection Services Division in the City of Rockville City Hall and made available for inspection by the public during regular office hours. Any amendment or change in such code promulgated by the NFPA shall not become part of this article until the modifications have been duly adopted by ordinance.

Paragraph 10.19.3 of the NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code, 2010 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

10.19.3 Where a required fire alarm system is impaired or out of service for more than four (4) hours in a twenty-four (24) hour period, mitigating measures shall be in accordance with Section 9-14 of the Rockville City Code.

Paragraph 17.12.2 of the NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code, 2010 Edition, is amended to by adding subparagraph 17.12.2.1 to read as follows:

17.12.2.1 Standpipe or main water flow indicators, if provided, must sound a supervisory signal.

Section 18.3 of the NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code, 2010 Edition, is amended by adding Sub-section 18.3.7 to read as follows:

18.3.7 Calculations. Calculations for amperage capacity of notification circuits shall provide for a minimum of a 20 percent safety factor on each circuit..

Subsection 18.4.1 of the NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code, 2010 Edition, is amended by adding Paragraph 18.4.1.7 to read as follows:

18.4.1.7 Where variable volume settings are provided with an audible device, the spacing shall be based on the low volume level.

Paragraph 24.5.1.11 (9) of the NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code, 2010 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

(9) Each floor level inside an enclosed exit stair(s) or, if the fire department hose connections are present in the exit stair(s), adjacent to each fire department hose connection.

Paragraph 24.5.1.15 of the NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code, 2010 Edition, is amended to read as follows:

24.5.1.15 If telephone jacks are provided, six (6) or more portable handsets (as determined by the authority having jurisdiction) shall be stored at each control center for use by emergency responders.

Secs. 9-122 – 9-124. Reserved.

